



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

DECEMBER 1983

FI FLASH...SA SPRING-SUMMER '84 RTW

Spring-Summer '84 ushers in a season of Realism -- wearable clothes for women on the go. A myriad of choices in sportswear, dresses and outerwear replaces traditional Spring coats and suits. Contemporary clothes give women a new look in simple, wearable shapes.

HIGHLIGHTS

SPORTSWEAR: New geometry & proportions in jackets and tops are cropped, squared-off, rectangular and clean-looking. Pants are wide and cropped; skirts are long and romantic.

DRESSES: Sportswear designers focus on dresses, and become trend-setters, especially in daytime dresses. Leading dress designers concentrate on occasion dressing, emphasizing late day looks, country club/luncheon dresses, winter vacation-bound clothes.

REVIEWED:

SPRING-SUMMER RTW

TEXTITALIA

FASHION FOCUS

INTERSTOFF

PARIS:
SPRING/SUMMER

KEY TRENDS

SWEEPING COATS: The Spring coat has been reinterpreted as a duster, trench or raincoat. Sophisticated shapes worn dramatically long and full over classic sportswear.

UNSTRUCTURED JACKETS: Roomy at top. Silhouettes reflect ample proportions emphasizing wide armholes. Trench jacket in chopped-off versions emerges as the newest treatment. Slouchy cardigans and big blazers offer an alternative to the perennial Spring suit. A strong Japanese influence prevails in functional, oversized "Samurai" blouson jackets usually in poplin & drill cloth with hardware details (zippers, grommets). Flanged-back jackets are popular for dresses, oversized shirts and jackets. Sleeveless jackets team with longer looks.

OUTERWEAR: Shiny, slick rainwear is another smart option in chopped-off trench coats, big duffle coats and slickers with hardware closings (zippers/snaps).

SQUARED-OFF SEPARATES: Cropped jackets, cut-off toppers (often double-breasted), long-lined straight jackets, cardigans and tunics -- paired with a variety of bottoms-- slim or long, soft, pleated skirts, chopped-off pants (from mid-ankle to mid-calf), new wide pants (often yoked with classic shapes). Long, lean hip-grazing tanks and sweaters play against pants, short skirts, walking shorts. Skirts go long and lean--anywhere between mid-calf or ankle length...most dramatic with the new huarache flat sandals. Long, pleated skirts with hip yoke and buttons/snaps look fresh and new played against the bigger jackets and tops. The apron-skirt returns in sophisticated new interpretations.

(Continued on following page)

KEY TRENDS (continued)

MINIMAL SWEATERS: The Tank replaces the camisole going to tunic length and goes under and over everything. Sweaters in crunchy cotton knit and linen yarns with minimal details are bare and spare in oversized slouchy versions with roll-up sleeves and straight unribbed bottoms.

DRESSES: Deauville Holiday that evokes nautical scenes in long torso that stays away from the body. Chemiserie style often with contrast piping or two-tone. Trench coatdresses double as coats worn over tank dressing. Blazer-Dress Coat, a classic redefined, that doubles as a coat. Coatdress updated in deep-sleeved, slouchy shawl, tuxedo reversed, and cardigan versions. Hip Hipsters emphasize hipline with band, yoke, or wrap details.

FABRICS: Linen dominates from silky to richly etched honeycomb weave. Cotton prints with silk tweeds; suede with silk charmeuse; plaids with stripes and checks. Jacquard pattern prints, polka dots.

COLORS: Muted desert and classic neutrals: grey, tobacco, khaki, white. Sun-faded neutrals; flattering porcelain shades include peach, aqua, ice blue, lilac. White/black teamed with red, royal, grey add spark on silks or high contrast weaves.

NEW LOOKS/CHOICES

Military/safari looks reminiscent of Colonial India and Africa. Jumpers and Jumpsuits in graphic patterns layered on an oversized top with wide armholes....casual in unbelted, oversized versions especially poplin. Emphasis is slip-on comfort focusing on the waistline with drawstrings. Also, bib treatments or Japanese-inspired Kabuki look with deep armholes and ample proportions. All Weather Gear in cotton suitings.

IMPORTANT DATES -- JANUARY 1984

Jan. 5-8:	National Boutique Show.....N.Y.
Jan. 6-9:	Summer Regional Market.....L.A.
Jan. 8-11:	NRMA - Nat'l Retail Merch...N.Y.
Jan. 9-13:	Intimate Apparel Market.....N.Y.
Jan. 9-13:	Handbags & Accessories.....N.Y.
Jan. 13-16:	Summer Regional Market.....Miami
Jan. 13-17:	Summer Regional Market.....Chicago
Jan. 15-17:	NAMSB (Men's & Boys').....N.Y.
Jan. 19-22:	Men's Fashion Assoc'n.....Chicago
Jan. 19-24:	Summer Regional Market.....Dallas
Jan. 30-2/3:	Summer/Transitional.....N.Y.

TEXTITALIA - LUXURY LOOK STRONG

Soft, luxurious fabrics; large open patterns; and dark rich colors predominated at the TEXTITALIA showing of Fall/Winter 1984-85 fashion fabrics in N.Y. Woolens with very soft hand-- many with the look and feel of cashmere-- lightweight tweeds and haberdasher fabrics, slubby weaves and brushed textures added a note of elegance.

Jersey, absent from the fashion scene for several seasons, made a strong comeback in mohair, silk, cashmere and in unique finishes: moire, pique, double-faced. Gold, silver and bronze-coated jersey were also introduced.

Gold and silver lurex and lame appeared on daytime and evening fabrics, as did large prints in paisley, primitive and geometric patterns. Prints on jacquard grounds, always a luxurious look, continued strong.

The color palette was dark and rich, much like the ceramic glaze colors of Chinese porcelains. Black is still important but rivaled by the newer brown, rust and olive-green tones.

FASHION FOCUS:

MARY JANE MARCASIANO

Contemporary designer, a fashion individualist known for distinctive knit-wear concepts stressing yarn textures and colors in simple, minimal designs. She brings her expertise into woven sportswear in oversized or squared-off jackets, long riding cardigans and coat-dresses that double as "covers" for tank knits--a recurrent theme--which repeats in dresses, slouchy sweaters and jumpsuits. She integrates silhouettes in richly hued fabrics including striped linens, linen jersey, fine twill cottons, a luxe range of heathered and solid knits, along with cotton crochets. Color palette--an array of white, rope and orange linen. Stripes go muted in taupe, khaki, teal, eggplant, rust, magenta and turquoise, providing an endless myriad of color interplay. The leading look here is the unique striped sweater in black, magenta and turquoise; the crocheted sweaters and dresses and the shadow striped linen in long, lean shapes.

THE 50TH INTERSTOFF 1933-1983

AUTUMN/WINTER 1984-85: Classic, elegant, luxurious, utilitarian, ethnic...Fabrics inspired by a myriad of contrasts from polar to the East..."Cocktails for Two" retro, sophisticates or cosmopolitan "Boulevardiers" and their mates.

HIGHLIGHTS

New finishing treatment.
Double face, facing and lining interplays.
Noble fibers, blends of cashmere, alpaca, angora, camel's hair, mohair, pure wool, silk.
Textile art --
imaginative new surface effects and techniques.
Greater synthesis between ground weave & patterns.
Dry hand, warm, raised, masculine fabrics.
Ornate ethnic designs.
Subtle lurex touches.
Oversized repeats in prints and plaids.
Skins continue, especially snake.
Crinkles...Newest tie dyed.

THE FABRICATIONS

"Cocktails For Two" Sophisticates--

luxurious...noble fiber blends. Tweeds, plaids, checks, flannels, etamines, velours, crepe, challis, twills, jaspe, covert, crepe de chine, shantung, double face, polished broadcloth, jacquards, dobbies, satin, stripes and checks, sateen, ottoman, velvet basket weaves, silky poplin, hairy-double faced, looped, ribboned, ribbed knits, double jersey. Napped and brushed fabrics, reversibles, fake or real furs, leathers, and suedes...Patterns: dots, stripes, houndstooth checks, herringbones, big repeat plaids, graph checks, large abstract jacquards, bark design, optical prints, aerial views, abstracts.

COSMOPOLITAN "BOULEVARDIERS"...19th Century romantics...dry...masculine fabrics, serge, whipcord, covert, corduroy, coteles, coarse and flat jersey, velvet, cotton poplin, glazed cotton, silk, lace trims...Patterns: paisleys, haberdashery, foulard, brush stroke prints, stripes, checks, feathers, leaves, roses, stylized florals.

TEXTILE ART...New imaginative industrial fabrications...tweeds, classic plaids, artisan and irregular weave effects, chambrays, oxfords, brushed back and felted cloths, denim seer-sucker, wrinkled and creased surfaces, jacquards, cut-outs, twills, end on end, jaspe, corduroy, boucles, single and double jersey. Patterns: "constructionist", pop art, modern art, poster prints, stripes, checks.

POLAR...Rugged, outdoor fabrics inspired by Scandinavia, the Arctic, Nomadic warrior tribes, and Central Asia...high tech finishes, laminates (aluminum & silver), rubberized and coated wovens and knits, heavily brushed cottons, thick flannel, shags, fleece, imitation leather and chamois, velvet and corduroy with a weathered look, thermal knits, serge, double-faced cloths, nubbed and tweedy cottons, crinkles. Patterns: oversized plaids, arabesques, kashmirs, tent rug, saddle blanket designs, "berber" stripes, flowered and geometric jacquards.

UTILITARIAN...Weather-proofed, anti-shock, technical fabrics, uniform or work cloth in cotton or synthetics...twills, drills, whipcord, end on end, jaspe, mesh, moleskin, gabardine, canvas, serge, corduroy, cotton satin, ottoman mesh, poplin, blanket, fabrics, matelasse, tarred, rubberized, oiled and metallic wovens and knits-- oxfords, crackled effects, new reversibles: ribbed/rubberized, sueded/rubberized, quilted/water-proofed. Patterns: stark plaids and checks, abstract and geometric prints, badges, emblems and stencil designs.

THE GREAT DYNASTIES: Hapsburg, Romanov, Ming...sumptuous fabrics...velvet, jacquard, damask, brocade, satin, satin stripes and checks, ottoman, crepe, crepe de chine, crepe marocaine, cloque, matelasse, plisse, lame, oxidized metallics, quiltings, embroideries, pleatings, embossing, lacquer and pearlized finishes--Patterns: geometric jacquards, folkloric, paisley, Persian prints.

THE COLORS

Winter Darks...wineberry, deep purple, bronzine, pine, navy, brown
Mid tones...teal, winter rose, golden honey, pewter grey, burnt orange, chive, coffee, caramel, khaki
Dynasty Brights...Chinese red, ming pink, lapis blue, turquoise, spinach, jade, chartreuse
Polars...chalk blue, rose petal, moss, cream, celadon green, winter white, pale grey.

PARIS, SPRING/SUMMER '84

French RTW for Spring/Summer '84 is lithe, fluid with asymmetrical effects. Shoulders remain wide but less angular. ST. LAURENT, GIVENCHY and DIOR revived the chemise and tent shapes. These dresses are often underscored by flying panels hanging from the shoulder, that loop around the neck or wing off the body.

The silhouette has dropped and is less constructed. Mid-calf hemlines are prevalent as well as various ankle lengths, especially in hooded robes with an ecclesiastical appearance (BIS and MONTANA).

Focus is on the hips via wrapping, sashing, belting, knotting or, at CHLOE, sliced into three horizontal sections called "paralleling" by Karl Lagerfeld. This works best in dresses (knitted or woven) with roomy tops, tight-ribbed hip sections and long, easy skirts.

Asymmetrical effects, a Japanese influence, can be as simple as a single lapel, side knotted sarongs, triangular inserts, cut-outs of fabric, uneven hemlines, panels or one shoulder tied-across-the-bodice shawls.

YOHJI YAMAMOTO'S trousers are cut below the knee with one leg trailing in a pleated train to the ankle. KIMIJAMA sets the two curving black panels into a white suit...one slice forming half the skirt; the other, the single wide lapel of the jacket. At DIOR, Gerard Penneroux's short printed dresses resemble Roman togas with a gauzy panel thrown back over the shoulder or diagonally across the front from left shoulder to right hemline.

JACQUELINE DE RIBES' shantung suit has a double line of royal and navy blue shantung which circles the neck, sweeping from the right shoulder in a widening curve to the end of the hip-long jacket. The same double blue sash marks a single pocket on the opposite hip.

ISSEY MIYAKE puts three sleeves into some of his kimono tops so that whichever of the two are used will set the garment off to the right or left.

The most talked-about collection: CHANEL rejuvenated by KARL LAGERFELD. Silhouettes are longer, colors fresher, and suits fluid, uncluttered by jewelry. Best are...pale-colored crepe cocktail dresses with stitched-down pleats that fly out above the knee...ankle length pleated skirts cut full, worn with cardigan sweaters for evening...the new jacket shapes--particularly--cropped, one pleat, flared back.

PATTERNS AND PRINTS: Stripes, dots, flora and fauna, skins, haberdashery checks, plaids, houndstooth, argyles, African primitives.

FABRICS: Texture and surface interest most important. Number one cloth--linen (crinkled, tweeded, nubbed, slubbed, glazed, burlaped, jacquarded). Cotton in all weights and weaves; Silk smooth or textured; worsted wool, gabardine, flannel. Leather and suede.

Knits: Flat knits continue; newer are ribbed, lacy, meshed, cabled, popcorn (alone or mixed), velour and double knits.

COLORS: Yellow from pale to neon; Grey from pearl to charcoal; White from chalk to vanilla; Midnight navy. Neutrals - wheat, mushroom, khaki, deep taupe, brown, bittersweet to milk chocolate. Spices: cinnamon, curry, pumpkin, rhubarb. Pastels: pink, lavender, mint and powder. Brights: Chinese red, fuchsia, purple (violet to magenta), chartreuse. Black for evening.

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